

# Excalibur

**THE NEWSLETTER OF  
THE INLAND WATERWAYS ASSOCIATION—LONDON BRANCH  
NUMBER 9, WINTER 1992**

Editor: Mike Stevens, 333 Lyham Road, London SW2 5NS—Telephone: 081-674 9387



*This year's National Waterways Festival in Wakefield over August Bank Holiday weekend suffered from heavy rain and very muddy conditions. Here Branch member Allan Scott is digging a drainage ditch to try and get the Branch Sales Stand back onto dry land.*

Photo: Mike Stevens

# From the Editor

## WELCOME

It is a pleasure to include in this issue an article by one of my opposite numbers, Kevin Maslin, who edits *Boundary Post*, the magazine of the Birmingham Canal Navigations Society. I invited Kevin to contribute an article as part of BCNS's campaign to persuade more boaters to use parts of the BCN off the Main Line. Several of us on the Branch Committee are already enthusiasts of these particular waterways and hope Kevin's article will encourage those of you haven't yet discovered them to do so. Wendy and I plan to spend a chunk of next August renewing our acquaintance with the lesser-known bits of the BCN: it would be great to meet some fellow London boaters up the Wyrley or on the 'back of the map'. I now have to pay the price of having Kevin's article here: the deal is that I write one for his magazine. So I think Birmingham is about to learn about the Bow Back Rivers.

## USE 'EM OR LOSE 'EM: AND LET SOMEBODY KNOW

The first phrase is, of course, very much the theme of Kevin's BCN article, and is picked up by David Allison-Beer on page 4 in relation to some of our own London Waterways. David mentions various past and present schemes to encourage boaters to cruise the less popular waterways. In the past I have rather shied away from such things as the National Cruising Award and similar awards at the National Festival because I've not wanted to bring a competitive flavour into my boating. This has been a purely personal feeling and I intend no criticism of those who take a different view. But I'm beginning to have second thoughts.

What's the use of cruising a lesser-used waterway in a campaigning spirit if nobody knows you've done it? What's needed to persuade the 'powers that be' to preserve a threatened length is not only the fact that boats really do use it, but evidence to prove that this is the case. At least the records of such things as the Silver Sword scheme and its various replacements provide places (in theory) where such evidence could be found. But are they ever used for this purpose? My fear is that if a national scheme is at all well-used its records would get so cumbersome that the job of locating the appropriate information would become unmanageable. But perhaps I'm wrong;

it would be good if somebody who has been involved with such a scheme could let us know. Anyway, next August I'll probably log our BCN travels through the local scheme referred to in Kevin's article. Perhaps what we need is a proliferation of such schemes run by local groups who can then build up records (of manageable bulk) to search for evidence in support of local campaigns. I'd welcome readers' views.

## WE WELCOME READERS' LETTERS, BUT...

...not those that tell us we've got your address wrong. *Excalibur* is sent out using labels from the membership computer at IWA Head Office. So if there is an error, writing to the Editor is not the most efficient way of correcting it, since I can only pass the letter on to the people who can do something about it. It's much better if you communicate directly with the Membership Department at IWA Head Office (address at the foot of this page).

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# From the Branch Chairman: Eric Garland

IWA Council has endorsed its earlier decision that London Branch should become a Region from 1 January 1993, and has wished the new Region well, particularly in its efforts to establish Sections and Branches. We now have someone in each of our areas who is keen to achieve a good mix of speakers. Although publicity is a little erratic, it was good to see a total of four London meetings advertised in October's *Waterways World*. Sorry if some of you have turned up at a meeting only to find a different speaker from the one advertised: we still have some gremlins to eliminate. We could do with more people at the socials: there are very good speakers lined up and it would be nice to feel that they are appreciated. A recent meeting showed Barking to be a place with excellent facilities (even though the tea didn't turn up) and Bob Aspinall really knew his stuff on London Docklands, but alas only one soul apart from the Committee came to enjoy the performance. We will continue to try to attract you.

Our new Region status is a lot less about politics than about getting people together to share their mutual interests and to build a strong team to safeguard and improve our local waterways. Details of the inaugural meeting of the Region can be found elsewhere in this issue.

At the national AGM the vexed old question of subscriptions was raised, Council having proposed a single membership fee of £20 (a rise of £4). Quite properly, Council had been advised that, at the present rate of spend, a shortfall would arise without the proposed increase. The meeting decided, however, to limit the increase, and fix single membership at £18. This means that unless membership increases considerably, IWA will go seriously into the red. You can help by using the *Waterways Alive* form supplied with the last issue of *Excalibur* to recruit a new member at the old rate before the increase in subscriptions next April.

Lastly, can I urge you to sell as many Draw tickets as you can to help our funds. I wish you all the finest compliments of the season.

## I.W.A. SOUTH-EAST REGION OFFICERS

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Dorothy Robbie 081-857 6367  
(*Membership Secretary*)

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& Working Party Organiser*)

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Ron Bingham 081-855 3693  
(*Navigation and Liaison Officer*)

Lewis Phillips 081-673 4412\*  
(*London Ring Plaque distribution*)

Martin Thompson, Epsom (03727) 25883  
(*Sales Officer*)

# From the Region Chairman: David Allison-Beer

## **Cruise' em or lose 'em**

This expression has become very important to our Association recently. I make no excuses for repeating it in this article. Its sentiments are very important to the continued use of all waterways and to secure the future of those being or to be restored. If we do not use those currently available what is the point of restoring new ones?

Many will remember the Silver Sword scheme, and the national cruising award which replaced it. They were both designed to encourage use of little-navigated waterways and use of all waterways in the winter season. The Silver Sword scheme was popular; the cruising award less so. At last year's national AGM a scheme to encourage a steady flow of boats on little used, particularly remainder waterways was launched. (See *Waterways* no: 163, page 9). I understand that Head Office was underwhelmed by the response. Are we losing our campaigning spirit?

In the late summer the threat to the use of the Ridgeacre Arm of the BCN by a planned low-level embankment became apparent. The IWA, especially our Birmingham Branch, has mounted a campaign against its closure. There was a protest rally of boats during our AGM at the beginning of October. I support all of these efforts. However I am concerned that this type of campaign is still necessary. Why did not more boats use this arm regularly? If they had it would have been far less likely that BW would have seen the it as expendable.

Here in the South East we have at least two instances where we need to demonstrate that we use our waterways all year round. The Slough Arm is not regularly used for its full length. It is not the best dredged or most exciting of waterways, but would you care if we lost it?

The other example has potentially far-reaching effects. It is a case of our efforts which often go unnoticed: that is the time we spend on your behalf to ensure that the interruptions to cruising by stoppages are minimised.

The aqueduct over the North Circular Road at Stonebridge Park on the Paddington Branch of the GU is to be replaced in the new year. This is a Department of Transport scheme. At the public inquiry their consultants said they would only

need a closure of three weeks. In 1990 they found that they would need eight weeks instead. Reluctantly we agreed, but working with British Waterways we gained an undertaking for free craning around the stoppage if it extended into the Easter period of 1993.

As a result of ground condition problems we were approached this summer by the contractors for agreement to a further stoppage in the late autumn of this year. Initially we refused but, again working with BW, we have been able to reach a compromise. BW and the IWA agreed that restricted passage through the works during this additional stoppage was preferable to craning out. The contractors have agreed to navigation on all but two weekends of a seven week stoppage. (Details to follow: see page 16).

However having negotiated it we need you to use it. Otherwise we shall lose credibility and next time you will lose this type of solution.

Remember 'Cruise 'em or lose 'em' applies just as much to our local waterways as anywhere else in the country. So plan a journey to include Slough and Central London this winter.

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## **LONDON REGION INAUGURAL GENERAL MEETING**

**Notice is hereby given of the Inaugural General Meeting of London Region, to be held on Wednesday 21 January 1993, 7.30pm at Abbey Community Centre, 34 Great Smith Street, London SW1P 3BU.**

### **AGENDA**

1. Apologies for absence
2. Election of Region Committee
3. Any other business

Nominations for the Committee should be in writing, signed by the proposer, seconder and nominee. Nominations MUST be received by the South-East Region Secretary, Michael Stimpson (address on page 3), not less than 14 days before the Inaugural General Meeting.

**SEE ALSO PAGE 10 FOR NOTICE OF LONDON BRANCH AND SOUTH-EAST REGION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS.**



# Welcome to the Hub of Britain's Canal Network



*Ascending Oldbury Locks to the summit level of the BCN.  
A prize contender in the use 'em or lose 'em stakes.*

Photo: Kevin Maslin

## Introduction

The above imposing and unmistakable British-Waterways-style greeting in green, black and white livery, is a familiar sight to thousands who journey to the 'mecca' of the waterways system in the heart of the Second City.

Birmingham's Gas Street Basin has undergone something of a radical change in the last few years, with tumbledown warehouses replaced by low level 'yuppie-style' offices and trendy pubs, and once-derelict land giving way to a glaring multi-storey hotel complex. Traditional it certainly ain't, but the high-tech planners can in some way be forgiven, as the smart, new appearance, coupled with the newly-laid walkways, has rekindled public interest in these once-forgotten City Centre cuts.

Heading North from the Basin, beneath the bustling urban sprawl, emerging from the short Broad Street Tunnel, the eye is immediately drawn to the, at first startling, brightness of the dominant architectural splendour that is the International Convention Centre and the National Indoor Arena, both recent additions to the City skyline. Onwards to Old Turn where the junction signpost, now inadvertently the

centrepiece of the whole development, presents an interesting dilemma.

From this point the canal traveller may choose to exit the Birmingham area by means of either the Birmingham and Fazeley Canal to the North, or the Grand Union Canal towards Southern waters. Either would make an ideal route for further exploration of the canal system. There is, however, a viable and highly worthwhile alternative.

Heading West from the junction, with Wolverhampton a mere fifteen miles into the distance, boaters are inclined to look on the stretch of the Birmingham Canal Navigations (BCN) Main Line as simply a necessary evil, a North-South link which must, at all costs, be traversed within the shortest practical time. For this and other reasons the BCN system is sadly under-used. As a 100-mile network, in the approximately only a quarter of the total distance is designated 'Cruiseway', including the New Main Line and links with the Staffs & Worcs, Worcs & Birmingham, Grand Union and Coventry Canals, the remaining 75 or so miles being consigned to 'Remainder Waterway' status by the infamous Transport Act of 1968. As such,

the majority of BCN canals need only to be maintained to a minimum safety standard by British Waterways. In short, with little use and given BW's philosophy that each waterway must be self-supporting, like it or not, the canals of Birmingham and the Black Country remain under constant threat of closure, and are available today for pleasure cruising only through the concerted efforts of local waterway enthusiasts.

Through encouragement by existing users and the recognition of their amenity value by Local Authorities, the BCN canals have, to a large extent, shed their grimy image and represent the latest word in tourism and recreation. A variety of organised Canal Clean-Ups and water-based activities, no doubt encouraged by the overwhelming response to IWA's *Waterways for Youth* concept, are making measurable headway in convincing local residents of all ages that the canals on their doorstep could be made to look attractive and utilised for pleasure purposes rather than the rubbish dumps they unashamedly create.

Despite recent favourable developments and improvements, the re-opening of Dudley Tunnel to through navigation and the construction of the Birmingham & Black Country Cycleway, for example, the system cannot by any means be considered safe, and a consistent vigil must be kept to ensure that the BCN remains open for the benefit of all users. Therefore the 'use 'em or lose 'em' adage has to be good advice, especially in these times of yet more uncertainty, with the BW Bill and the Transport & Works Bill poised to threaten further the long-term security of this priceless legacy of the Industrial Revolution.

### **We're here to help**

The interests of the BCN system are ably supported by members of the **Birmingham Canals Navigation Society** and **IWA Birmingham Branch**, collectively striving to promote usage of the system, constantly to monitor canalside development and to work as closely as possible with Local Authorities and British Waterways to maintain a healthy mixture of practical improvements and harmony with waterway users. Mutual consultation is of paramount importance, particularly where sensitive issues are concerned. Both groups are fully conversant in the ways and intricacies of cruising the system and will, of course, be pleased to advise on the best way to enjoy its finer points. Such is the complexity of the network that a major project undertaken by the BCN Society over the last ten years has been the placement of Direction Signposts at every one of

the twenty-seven navigable junctions, an answer to all those boaters and walkers who complained of getting lost when straying from the 'safety' of the Main Lines! All Signposts are scrupulously chronicled in the Society's own *Signpost Trail* booklet, offering a choice of routes from wherever the system is joined. IWA Birmingham Branch has recently re-launched its *BCN Challenge Award* scheme, whereby boaters and walkers may obtain Standard or Silver Awards by completing given sections of the BCN.

### **Priority Cruising!**

Generally speaking, the conglomeration of waterways to the North East side of the Birmingham Level is referred to as 'The Northern BCN'. Names such as the Curly Wyrley, Tame Valley and Daw End conjure up images of a peaceful countryside haven, but were all once part of a thriving, working community. Today the Northern BCN exists as a miscellany of industry and urban dwellings in its lower reaches, metamorphosing into almost unbelievably tranquil, rural settings progressively towards its uppermost terminus and feeder reservoir at Chasewater. The statistics show, however, that despite the eminent rustic charm and rural delights of the Rushall Canal, Anglesey Branch and Cannock Extension, to name a few, many visitors seem to favour the relatively rugged urban landscape of the Main Lines. Spend a night in the secluded splendour of Anglesey Basin to understand the true meaning of isolation!

An on-going concern is the missing connection with the remainder of the canal system. However the Lichfield & Hatherton Canals Restoration Trust is confident that plans to reinstate links with the Coventry and Staffs & Worcs Canals are beginning to bear fruit which, while providing Northern access to the BCN, will open up two possible circular routes. Meanwhile, to the South, the Lapal Canal Trust is examining restoration proposals for the truncated Dudley No.2 Canal to link with the Worcs & Birmingham Canal at Selly Oak. Both schemes, upon completion, will undoubtedly breathe new life into the system and give a welcome boost to the restoration movement.

Reports would suggest that a reasonable percentage of visitors to the Black Country National Waterways Festival, undisputably the success-story of 1991, took the opportunity to discover the less accessible areas of the system for themselves. The Titford Canal, at 510ft the summit level of the BCN, the typically urban contour of the Walsall Canal and the Ridgacre Branch, currently under threat from

uncompromising transport planners, are all worthy of retention, but will rapidly decline and face ultimate consignment to the history books if we cannot demonstrate their full potential as cruising, living waterways.

### A word of advice

As with any foray into the wonderful world of canal cruising, a visit to the BCN requires a certain amount of planning and forethought. Facilities such as pump-out or diesel, although never more than a day's cruising apart, may prove difficult to co-ordinate, or, in the case of a water point, hard to find unless located at a recognised site. Overnight stops in particular should be fitted into the itinerary with slightly more precision than would normally be required. To steal someone else's line '*We have no wish to be alarmist, but . . .*' Like all urban waterways, the potential for vandalism should be borne in mind, safety in numbers being a good rule of thumb. A list of recommended mooring sites is available from the BCN Society.

### How can you help?

It is not possible, in this brief article, to do full justice to the potential of the BCN, its environment and the rewards to be gained by detailed exploration of its 'backwaters'. By all means, please use and enjoy the Main Lines, but, we hope, through studying these notes you will be encouraged to spend some time when you next visit our part of the world, to venture off the 'beaten track' and experience the delights of the real BCN. You are assured of a warm welcome.

KEVIN MASLIN

*The author is the editor of Boundary Post, the magazine of the BCN Society.*

### Useful addresses

THE BIRMINGHAM CANAL NAVIGATIONS SOCIETY

Secretary, Neil Bough, 60 Tresham Road, Great Barr, Birmingham B44 9UD. Tel: 021-366 6231.

IWA BIRMINGHAM BRANCH

Secretary, Brian Kingshott, The Royal Wolverhampton School, Penn Road, Wolverhampton WV3 0EG. Tel: 0902-341230

BRITISH WATERWAYS: BIRMINGHAM AND BLACK COUNTRY

Bradley Lane, Bilston, West Midlands, WV14 8DW. Tel: 0902-409010

BCN CHALLENGE AWARD

Dave Necklen, 'Waverley', Sparrows End Lane, Brewood, Staffs ST19 9DB. Tel: 0902-850127.

### Recommended reading

*Canal Companion—Birmingham Canal Navigations*

J M PEARSON & SON LTD

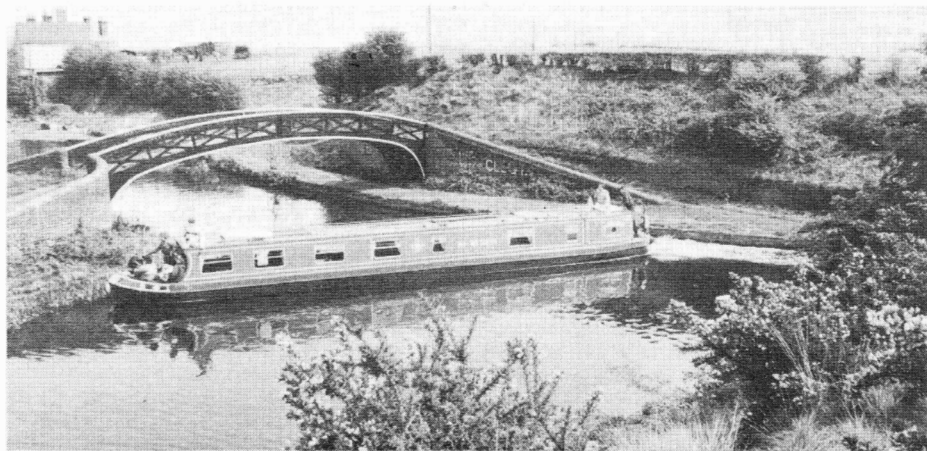
*The Other Sixty Miles—a survey of the abandoned canals of Birmingham and the Black Country*

PUBLISHED BY THE BCN SOCIETY

*BCN Signpost Trail*

PUBLISHED BY THE BCN SOCIETY

*Nicholson/Ordnance Survey Guide to the Waterways (Central)*



*The tranquil Northern BCN at Ogley Junction on the Anglesey Branch.  
The proposed Lichfield Canal Restoration begins beneath the roving bridge.*

Photo: Kevin Maslin

# On the Metreau

## News and Gossip of London's Waterways

### REGENT'S CANAL WALKS 1993

IWA London Branch began its Regent's Canal walks in 1977 to promote an interest in the canals. Despite limited publicity, the walks have proved very successful and, in the sixteen years, 205 walks have been held and the guides have been accompanied by nearly 4000 people.

In 1993 the canal walks will be conducted in partnership with 'London Walks', an organisation which has been running guided walks in London for over 25 years. IWA will arrange and lead the walks and the guides will continue to donate their 'takings' to IWA funds. The walks will appear in the 'London Walks' brochure and will benefit from the extensive publicity undertaken by 'London Walks'. New walks will be added and starting places varied. For instance, we plan to cover the entire Regent's Canal in four walks and to add walks along other waterways.

From December 1992 until May 1993 walks will be held on the afternoon of the first and third Sunday of each month, with an extra walk on Boxing Day morning. Details of individual walks can be found on pages 13-15 of this issue.

### CHANGE OF SECRETARY

Marcia Davies has found it necessary to resign as Branch Secretary because of pressure of other work and study. The Branch Committee was sorry to receive her resignation and thanked her for her work in the post. Sue Blake has agreed to become Acting Secretary until the end of the Branch's year. Her address is on page 3.

### CHIMNEY? WHAT CHIMNEY?

Eric Wood (IWA West Midlands Region Chairman) has written to the Editor:

*'I must congratulate you and your assistants for the excellent production of your Newsletter Number 8 dated Autumn 1992, with regard to which I must ask the following. Can you please inform the Midland Region whether or not the new chimney which is shown on the narrowboat in the photograph on page 10 - approximately 5 feet in length - is mandatory or indeed essential when passing the tall chimneys of the power station in order to obtain sufficient up-draught? Can you recommend which part of the roof-line it is to be fixed to, and what material is normally used in this type of construction?'*

In fact the boat in question is *Anker no. 5*, owned by David and Elizabeth Wood. Since the Woods are both officers of the Thames Barge Sailing Club, the Editor's theory is that the apparent chimney is in fact their new secret weapon which unfolds into a full-size mast and

sprit to take advantage of favourable winds. Alternative suggestions from readers will be published as long as they are (a) amusing and (b) reasonably clean.

### LITTLE VENICE DEVELOPMENTS

At a recent meeting with Mark Bensted, London Waterways Manager, Branch Officers learned more about his plans for the future at Little Venice. It has been announced in the Press that Alex Prowse is offering for sale *Crook*, one of his two converted barges moored on the North side of Browning's Pool. Mark is hoping that this will become a static restaurant. He also hoping for another static boat on the opposite side of the Pool containing an information-centre and classroom, financed by some sort of commercial activity on board. He gave our representatives to understand that planning permission will be applied for shortly. The Branch Committee was far from enthusiastic about these proposals: we feel that a proliferation of static trading vessels will detract from rather than adding to the amenity value of the waterways. As one Branch Officer put it, *'He might as well put piling round them and fill it in!'*

### 200 CLUB WINNERS

August winners (drawn at September social meeting)

£60 no. 88 Miss R J Smith, Southampton  
£30 no. 251 Mr R Martyn, London NW5  
£15 no. 136 Mr Joe Busby, South Harrow  
£15 no. 215 Mr E J Daley, Horsham

October winners

£60 no. 218 Mr R Winter, Thorpe Bay  
£30 no. 173 Mr Lewis Phillips, London SW12  
£15 no. 84 Mr R W Naualls, St Albans  
£15 no. 219 Mrs P Gray, Havant

### LIMEHOUSE CELEBRATIONS, MAY 29-30

In the last weekend of May, the Limehouse Basin Co-operative is organising a major event to celebrate the opening of the Limehouse Link Road and the full re-opening of Limehouse Basin. On the quayside there will be stalls, music, eats and drinks, displays, the fun of the fair: in the water, yachts, narrow-boats, barges, canoes, the river-bus. IWA London Branch is co-operating with the event, and our liaison is through the person of Ron Bingham, whose phone number is on page 3. More details, we hope, in our next issue.

We have also heard that on completion of the Link Road, it will be covered over, but to a depth less than the High Tide level, to allow for further

development. It is proposed that there will be posts to prevent boats getting stranded on top. The Branch's Planning and Navigation Committee is far from happy with this proposal and is taking the matter up with the relevant authorities. One wit has suggested it would make an ideal site for paddy-fields.

### **NEW YEAR AT LITTLE VENICE**

New Year could be a busy time at Little Venice. As well as those boaters who regularly visit at this time of year, St Pancras Cruising Club are planning to be there in force for New Year's Eve, moored alongside Rembrandt Gardens, and to have a barbecue. The historic Narrow Boat Owners Club also planned to foregather there before their AGM on 2 January. At the time of writing this last gathering is subject to confirmation, depending on stoppage plans, particularly the stoppage at the North Circular Road Aqueduct (of which we should have some news on the Late News pages.)

### **PRESENTATIONS AND DONATIONS**

The Central London Social on September was a busy occasion. The speaker was Dr Guy Johnson, a pioneer of canal restoration who is still very involved with the Stratford-upon-Avon Canal Society. But on this occasion he was telling us about something much bigger and much further away: the Panama Canal. Quite a change from our usual fare at these meetings. This was followed by the usual two-monthly draw of winners in the 200 Club (see opposite).

We also had a number of presentations to make. The first group consisted of donations to those waterways charities which were featured at Canalway Cavalcade 1992. £1000 went to the Richmond Boat Project, a community boat scheme on the Thames. The intention to give money to restoration projects in East London was honoured by donations to two such projects: £800 to the East London Rivers Initiative, who are organising much of the work on the Bow Back Rivers that has been reported here on a number of occasions, and £600 to the restoration of the House Mill, about which an article will appear in our next issue.

After these came two presentations to Len House, recently retired from the Branch Committee after many years' hard work. Region Chairman David Allison-Beer, on behalf of IWA Council, presented him with the Edie Palmer Award, a national award for those who have made an outstanding contribution to the administration of IWA. Then Branch Vice-President Arthur Farrand Radley presented him with a memento from the Branch in the form of the IWA badge embroidered in silver wire, mounted and framed (photograph on page 12).

Apart from the three donations mentioned above, the Branch Committee recently resolved to donate £500 to the Cotswold Canals Trust, £400 towards the completion of Foxham Locks on the Wilts & Berks Canal, £800 to KESCRG (partly in recognition of their invaluable help as the Site & Services Crew at Canalway Cavalcade), £200 to the Pirate Club and £424 to buy a discusser needed for the Montgomery Canal restoration. This last cheque was presented to Alan Jervis at the end of his talk about the Montgomery at the October social meeting.

### **SITUATION VACANT**

Among the other hats worn by your Editor is that of Minutes Secretary of the Branch Committee. I've been doing this job for about three years and would dearly like to give it up in order to devote the time to the other things I do for the Branch. But first we need to find somebody who'll take it on (there are still vacancies for co-options to the Committee). Are there any volunteers out there? If so please contact me or any Branch Committee member (phone numbers on page 3).

### **BOW BACK RIVERS: MORE PROGRESS**

The work-camp previewed in our last edition took place much as expected, and a lot of valuable work was done. Apart from what was described in our preview, work-camp volunteers also worked on the House Mill restoration, the first time that volunteer workers had been used on this project.

More recent news is that preliminary approval has been given by the Department of the Environment to a group of Derelict Land Grants for dredging the 'navigable loop' on the Back Rivers. This work now has to go out to tender. The intention is to dredge to centre channel to a depth of 6ft in order that after settlement of the undredged edges, the channel should end up with a clear 4ft depth.

### **EMPIRE WHARF STRIKES BACK**

The Branch recently gave evidence to a Public Enquiry in opposition to a development at Empire Wharf on the off-side of the Hertford Union Canal. We were pleased to hear in due course that the Inspector had ruled in favour of our side. Most recently an alternative proposal has been submitted, which PlanNav Committee Secretary Allan Scott showed to some of us at the Croydon social meeting in October. Our immediate reaction was that the buildings were much more acceptable in scale this time, and looked fairly in keeping with other developments along Duckett's, but we didn't like the proposal for what the architects called a towpath (leading nowhere?) which we felt inappropriate to the off-side of this particular canal.



# Notice of Region and Branch Annual General Meetings

Notice is hereby given that the **Annual General Meetings of the South-East Region and the London Branch will be on the dates and at the venues shown below.** The AGM of the South-East Region is still relevant to London Branch, except for items 8 and 9, which apply to the remaining two Branches.

## **SOUTH EAST REGION**

Thursday 11 March 1993, 8.00 pm  
The Fountain Inn  
Barming  
Maidstone  
Kent

## **LONDON BRANCH**

Thursday 18 March 1993, 7.30 pm  
Abbey Community Centre  
24 Great Smith Street  
London SW1P 3BU

## **Agenda for both Meetings**

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of the last AGM and any Special General Meetings held since.
3. Matters arising from the Minutes.
4. Report of the Chairman.
5. Report of the Secretary.
6. Report of the Treasurer and presentation of accounts.
7. Adoption of accounts.
8. Statement of Committee size.
9. Election of Committee members.
10. Appointment of Honorary Auditor.
11. Any other business.

Nominations for Committees should be in writing, signed by the proposer, seconder and nominee. Nominations must be received by the Region Secretary, Michael Stimpson, or the Branch Secretary, Sue Blake, as appropriate, not less than 14 days before the AGM concerned. Both addresses are on page 3.

**See also page 4 for Notice of the Inaugural General Meeting of the new London Region.**

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## 1993 New Draw

The 1992 IWA London Branch New Year Draw was such a success, raising over 1,500 for Branch funds, that your committee has decided to organise a second Draw for 1993. The aim of the Draw is again to raise funds to run our basic activities: room hire for committee and social meetings; work in making representations to various authorities, producing and mailing 'Excalibur', monitoring planning applications and generally safeguarding our local waterways. We include two books of five 50p tickets with this issue of 'Excalibur' and hope that you will support our efforts.

As can be seen from the list below we have a splendid selection of prizes. The first prize is a one week holiday for four on a luxury Bridgewater Boats narrow boat operating from Berkhamsted on the Grand Union Canal, for which we are grateful to Mike and Lindy Foster.

Thanks also to those who have helped us by donating the other prizes for the Draw - a gift voucher for 50 (Uxbridge Boat Centre

Ltd), a dinner cruise for two aboard 'My Fair Lady' (Paddy Walker), an Alex Prowse waterway colour print (Alex & Jan Prowse), a 20 Marks & Spencer gift voucher (Mr E.A.G. Lewis); a one year subscription to Waterways World (Waterway Productions Ltd), two one year subscriptions to Canal & Riverboat (A.E.Morgan Publications Ltd), a framed Alan Firth waterway colour print (IWA), 'History & Guide to the Leeds & Liverpool Canal' by Mike Clarke, a pewter tankard (IWA), and a silver bud vase (IWA).

If you can also help by selling tickets to your friends or colleagues more books are available from Richard Bird, 23 Porcupine Close, Nottingham, London SE9 3AE (phone 081-857 6367) or any London Branch committee member. The Draw will take place on 18 February, 1993 at the London Branch Social Meeting at the Abbey Community Centre, Great Smith Street, London SW1. The meeting commences at 7.30pm and the winning tickets will be drawn at about 9.00pm.

*Chug through the Chilterns  
Caring for Canals  
with*

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### **Waterways World**

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BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFS DE14 3TD

### **Alex Prowse**

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BLOMFIELD ROAD, LONDON W9 2PA TEL: 071-289 7050

### **Canal & Riverboat**

The magazine with more to offer

INLAND CRUISER • STEEL SCENE

HOLIDAY HIRING • MARINAS & MOORINGS

Looking forward with today's boater in mind



*One of the winners in last year's Draw, Ben Scott (left) receiving his prize,  
a fine art print donated by the artist, Alex Prowse, who made the presentation  
on his gallery barge, Crook, at Little Venice during Canalway Cavalcade in May 1992.*

Photo: Mike Stevens





*At the September Central London Social, recently-retired Committee Member Len House (left) was presented with a commemorative badge by Branch Vice-President Arthur Farrand Radley, on behalf of the Branch, to honour Len's many years of service.  
Photo: Mike Stevens.*

## **Waterways World**

is pleased to support this issue of

### **EXCALIBUR**

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# Waterways Events in and around London

## DECEMBER

Tuesday 1st 8pm	<b>LONDON IWA</b>	N.E. LONDON SOCIAL MEETING at Rammey Marsh Cruising Club, Lea Road, Waltham Abbey (down the towpath and across the lock bridge). Garth Allen, waterways artist. Refreshments provided, free! Contact, Sue Blake (081-882 8471) Dig on the Hereford and Gloucester Canal. Contact, Tim Lewis (081-530 7926)
Weekend 5th/6th	LONDON WRG	Working Party: venue to be arranged. Contact, Ken Parish (0622-858329)
Weekend 5th/6th	KESCRG	Guided walk on the Regent's Canal: Paddington to Camden (2 hours approx). Meet at Warwick Avenue tube station. Contact Dr Michael Essex-Lopresti (081-882 1337)
Sunday 6th 2.30pm	<b>LONDON IWA with 'LONDON WALKS'</b>	UXBRIDGE SOCIAL MEETING at Hillingdon Canal Cruising Club, Waterloo Road, Uxbridge. Speaker: Peter Coyne (BW Regional Manager). Contact, Mike Stimpson (0923-770425)
Tuesday 8th 8pm	<b>LONDON IWA</b>	CROYDON SOCIAL MEETING at 'The Railway Bell', North End, Croydon (almost opposite West Croydon BR and bus stations). SPEAKER, Roger Squires: <i>TWA visit to the USA</i> . Contact, Mike Stevens (081-674 9387)
Wednesday 9th 8pm	<b>LONDON IWA</b>	CENTRAL SOCIAL MEETING at Abbey Community Centre, 34 Great Smith Street, SW1P 3BU. Quiz and auction. Contact, Tim Lewis (081-530 7926)
Thursday 10th 7 for 7.30pm	<b>LONDON IWA</b>	AEU House, Primrose Hill, Chelmsford. Christmas Social Evening. Contact, Mrs Molly Beard (0702-554492)
Thursday 10th 8pm	IWA CHELMSFORD BRANCH	Hatfield Cricket Club, Welwyn Garden City. Christmas Social Evening and Supper. Contact, Greta Wright (0727-860137)
Tuesday 15th 8pm	IWA HERTS BRANCH	The Fountain Inn, Barming, Maidstone. Christmas get-together with the Medway River Users Association. Contact, Angela Madle (0634-722661)
Tuesday 15th 7.30 for 8pm	IWA KENT and EAST SUSSEX BRANCH	Union Jack Club, Sandell St (opposite Waterloo Station). Social and photographic competition. Contact, John Morgan (0252-512848)
Friday 18th 7 for 7.30pm	THAMES BARGE SAILING CLUB	Guided walk on the Regent's Canal: Islington to Mile End (2 hours approx). Meet at Angel tube station. Contact: Dr Michael Essex-Lopresti (081-882 1337).
Saturday 26th 11am	<b>LONDON IWA with 'LONDON WALKS'</b>	Gathering at Little Venice. Bring your own booze and barbecue. Contact: Roger Squires (071-232 0987).
Thursday 31st/Friday 1 Jan	ST PANCAS CRUISING CLUB	

## JANUARY 1993

Saturday 2nd	HISTORIC NARROW BOAT OWNERS' CLUB	AGM at Little Venice (subject to confirmation). Contact: Richard Booth (0296-662520)
Sunday 3rd 2.30pm	<b>LONDON IWA with 'LONDON WALKS'</b>	Guided walk on the Regent's Canal: Paddington to Camden (2 hours approx). Meet at Warwick Avenue tube station. Contact: Dr Michael Essex-Lopresti (081-882 1337)

Tuesday 12th 8pm	<b>LONDON IWA</b>	UXBRIDGE SOCIAL MEETING at Hillingdon Canal Cruising Club, Waterloo Road, Uxbridge. Speaker Eric Garland: <i>'Forming a London Region'</i> . Contact: Mike Stimpson (0923-770425)
Thursday 14th	IWA CHELMSFORD AND KENT AND EAST SUSSEX BRANCHES	AEU House, Primrose Hill, Chelmsford. Annual Inter-Branch Quiz.
Friday 15th 8.00pm	<b>LONDON IWA</b>	Contact: Mrs Molly Beard (0702-554492) S.E. LONDON SOCIAL MEETING at 'The Royal Tavern', Mottingham (corner of Court Road and Sidcup Road: very close to Mottingham BR station). Speaker to be arranged. Contact Dorothy Robbie (081-857 6367) Dig on the Thames and Severn Canal. Contact: Tim Lewis (081-530 7926)
Weekend 16th/17th	LONDON WRG	Guided walk on the Regent's Canal: Camden to Islington (2 hours approx). Meet at Camden Town tube station. Contact: Dr Michael Essex-Lopresti (081-882 1337)
Sunday 17th 2.30pm	<b>LONDON IWA with 'LONDON WALKS'</b>	Hatfield Cricket Club, Welwyn Garden City. Members' slides evening. Contact: Greta Wright (0727-860137)
Tuesday 19th 8pm	IWA HERTS BRANCH	CENTRAL LONDON SOCIAL MEETING at Abbey Community Centre, 34 Great Smith St, SW1P 3BU. Inaugural meeting of new London Region, plus Arthur Farrand Radley: <i>'Canals 200'</i> . Contact: Tim Lewis (081-530 7926)
Thursday 21st 7 for 7.30pm	<b>LONDON IWA</b>	Union Jack Club, Sandell Street (opposite Waterloo Station). Speaker: Tony Farnham: <i>'The hey-day of the Thames Sailing Barge illustrated in old picture postcards'</i> . Contact John Morgan (0252-512848)
Friday 22nd 7.0 for 7.30pm	THAMES BARGE SAILING CLUB	

## FEBRUARY 1993

Tuesday 2nd 8.00pm	<b>LONDON IWA</b>	N.E. LONDON SOCIAL MEETING at Barking Central Library. Speaker (provisional) Brian Daubeney: <i>'The House Mill Restoration'</i> . Contact: Sue Blake (081-882 8471) Dig: venue to be arranged. Contact: Tim Lewis (081-530 7926)
Weekend 6th/7th	LONDON WRG	Guided walk on the New River. Meet at Manor House tube station. Contact: Dr Michael Essex-Lopresti (081-882 1337)
Sunday 7th 2.30pm	<b>LONDON IWA with 'LONDON WALKS'</b>	UXBRIDGE SOCIAL MEETING at Hillingdon Canal Cruising Club, Waterloo Road, Uxbridge. Speaker: Michael Shearsby, MP. Contact: Mike Stimpson (0923-770425)
Tuesday 9th 8pm	<b>LONDON IWA</b>	AEU House, Primrose Hill, Chelmsford. Speaker: Bob Wagland: <i>'Summer of the French and Belgian Waterways'</i> . Contact: Mrs Molly Beard (0702-554492)
Thursday 10th 8pm	IWA CHELMSFORD BRANCH	Hatfield Cricket Club, Welwyn Garden City. Speaker: Ted Percy (Milton Keynes Narrowboats) <i>'Ted's latest towpath walk'</i> . Contact: Greta Wright (0727-860137)
Tuesday 16th 8pm	IWA HERTS BRANCH	CROYDON SOCIAL MEETING at 'The Railway Bell', North End, Croydon (almost opposite West Croydon bus and BR stations). Speaker: David Daines: <i>'Historic narrowboats'</i> . Contact: Mike Stevens (081-674 9387)
Wednesday 17th 8.00pm	<b>LONDON IWA</b>	

Thursday 18th 7 for 7.30pm **LONDON IWA**

Friday 19th 7.0 for 7.30pm THAMES BARGE SAILING CLUB

Sunday 21st 2.30pm **LONDON IWA with 'LONDON WALKS'**

Monday 22nd 7.30 for 8pm IWA KENT AND EAST SUSSEX BRANCH

Weekend 27th/28th LONDON WRG

**CENTRAL LONDON SOCIAL MEETING** at Abbey Community Centre, 34 Great Smith St, SW1P 3BU. Speaker: Bob Kearney: *'The Ipswich and Stowmarket Navigation'*.

Contact: Tim Lewis (081-530 7926)

Union Jack Club, Sandell St (opp Waterloo Stn). Speaker: Chris Roche: *'Historic wrecks in the Falklands'*. Contact John Morgan (0252-512848)

Guided walk on the Regent's Canal: Paddington to Camden (2 hours approx). Meet at Warwick Avenue tube station. Contact: Dr Michael Essex-Lopresti (081-882 1337)

Fountain Inn, Barming, Maidstone. Visit by the *Medway Queen* Preservation Society.

Contact: Angela Madle (0634-722661)

Dig: venue to be arranged.

Contact: Tim Lewis (081-530 7926)

## MARCH 1993

Sunday 7th 2.30pm **LONDON IWA with 'LONDON WALKS'**

Tuesday 9th 8pm **LONDON IWA**

Thursday 11th 8pm IWA CHELMSFORD BRANCH

Tuesday 16th 8pm IWA HERTS BRANCH

Thursday 18th 7 for 7.30pm **LONDON IWA**

Friday 19th 8.00pm **LONDON IWA**

Friday 19th 7.0 for 7.30pm THAMES BARGE SAILING CLUB

Weekend 20th/21st LONDON WRG

Sunday 21st 2pm **LONDON IWA with 'LONDON WALKS'**

Tuesday 30th 7.30 for 8pm IWA KENT AND EAST SUSSEX BRANCH

Guided walk on the Regent's Canal: Camden to Islington (2 hours approx). Meet at Camden Town tube station. Contact: Dr Michael Essex-Lopresti (081-882 1337)

**UXBRIDGE SOCIAL MEETING** at Hillingdon Canal Cruising Club, Waterloo Road, Uxbridge. Speaker: Tim Sidaway: *'The Canal Infrastructure'*. Contact: Mike Stimpson (0923-770425)

AEU House, Primrose Hill, Chelmsford. AGM followed by Roy Cox: *'Beyond 'Springfield Basin and beyond' ''*.

Contact: Mrs Molly Beard (0702-554492)

Hatfield Cricket Club, Welwyn Garden City. AGM followed by Ian Fletcher: *'South-Eastern Safari'*. Contact: Greta Wright (0727-860137)

**CENTRAL LONDON SOCIAL MEETING** at Abbey Community Centre, 34 Great Smith St, SW1P 3BU. Branch AGM plus speaker: Roger Squires. Contact: Tim Lewis (081-530 7926)

**S.E. LONDON SOCIAL MEETING** at 'The Royal Tavern', Mottingham (corner of Court Road and Sidcup Road; very close to Mottingham BR station). Speaker to be arranged.

Contact Dorothy Robbie (081-857 6367)

Union Jack Club, Sandell St (opposite Waterloo Station). Speaker: Alan Spong: *'The Great River Race'*. Contact John Morgan (0252-512848)

Dig on the Thames and Severn Canal.

Contact: Tim Lewis (081-530 7926)

Guided walk on the Regent's Canal: Islington to Mile End (2 hrs app). Meet at Angel tube. Contact: Dr Michael Essex-Lopresti (081-882 1337)

Fountain Inn, Barming, Maidstone. AGM.

Contact: Angela Madle (0634-722661)

### DON'T FORGET CANALWAY CAVALCADE AT LITTLE VENICE, 1st to 3rd MAY 1993.

For information please contact the following:

Boat entries Ann Hancox 081-542 8998

Trade entries Richard Bird 081-857 6367

Publicity Mike Stevens 081-674 9387

Other questions Libby Bradshaw 081-874 2787

## Late News

### **NORTH CIRCULAR ROAD AQUEDUCT STOPPAGE**

Details of the extra stoppage for the rebuilding of the North Circular Road Aqueduct before Christmas (referred to at various places in this issue) are now to hand. The closure will be from 2 November to 18 December inclusive. There will be openings for through traffic on some weekends, of which the only one after the publication date of this issue is 12/13 December, when navigation should be possible from 8am Saturday until 4pm Sunday. Best to check with the Waterway Office (071-286 6101) first, though! This is quite separate from the original scheduled stoppage in the New Year, details of which have already been published.

### **THE BW BILL**

I'm writing this in mid-November, and the Second Reading Debate in the House of Commons hasn't yet taken place, but is thought likely before Christmas. So now is a prime time to write to your MP about any aspects of the Bill that still worry you. Briefing material is available from IWA Head Office, 114 Regent's Park Road, NW1 8UQ, 'phone 071-586 2510 / 2556.

### **ANYTHING TO SELL?**

You may have noticed on the *Waterways Events* page that the December Central London social will take its traditional form of a Quiz and Auction. I understand that the Quiz is being prepared, as ever, by London WRG and that Kevin Saint will be our auctioneer, if we have anything for him to sell. That's where you come in. Any donations, "boaty" or not, serious or frivolous, will be very welcome. Bring them to the social or pass them to any Committee member. All proceeds to Branch funds.

### **IWA SUBSCRIPTIONS**

If you haven't heard it elsewhere, you will be interested to know that the main development at the national AGM was a resolution to increase IWA subscriptions from 1 May 1993, although not as much as had been recommended by Council. The single adult annual sub will now be £18 and the family and overseas rates both £23. Details of these and the other rates will, I am sure, appear in *IWA Waterways* in the near future. The increase, I understand, is largely to cover the high cost of campaigns that IWA has been / continues to be involved in, as described by David Allison-Beer in our Summer issue. I am told that the increase will be accompanied by a recruitment drive.

### **LONDON CANAL MUSEUM NEWS**

There's quite a lot going on at the Museum. You're still in time to see the Art Exhibition that was opened by HRH the Princess Royal on 3 November and which runs until 13 December. It covers a wide range of artists from local school-children to some who have exhibited at the Royal Academy. Museum opening times are 10am to 4.30pm, Tuesdays to Sundays. The address is below.

In the week from Saturday 23 January until Sunday 31 January there will be an opportunity to learn about canal holidays. Catalogues from hire firms will be available, and representatives of these companies have been invited. In addition, enthusiasts with wide experience as boat-owners and/or hirers on the canals of Britain will be on hand to talk to the public and discuss possible routes and places where boats can be hired. It is hoped to have some boats available which, by prior arrangement, those considering a canal holiday may take out, with expert help, along the Regent's Canal and through a lock. The museum shop sells a selection of canal maps, guides and books.

The Museum now has for sale a 25-minute video containing two films made nearly 70 years apart. *The Regent's Canal* was made last year, largely from a boat travelling from Little Venice to Limehouse. It was written and directed by Branch member Dr Michael Essex-Lopresti. *Barging Through London* is a black-and-white film made in 1924, supplied to the Museum by courtesy of Huntley Film Archives. Although it is normally shown as a "silent", for this video music has been added by Andrew Youdell, who accompanies silent films on the piano throughout the country, including at the National Film Theatre. Both films were transferred to a broadcast-quality video master, from which VHS copies have been prepared and are available at £9.95 at the Museum or £10.70 including postage from:

The Curator,  
London Canal Museum,  
12/13 New Wharf Road,  
Kings Cross, N1 9RT.  
'phone 071-713 0836

The price has deliberately been set low in comparison with other canal videos to encourage sales and hence publicity for the Museum. *The Regent's Canal* is also available for hire in 16mm film format (£15.00) from the same address.

**A HAPPY CHRISTMAS  
AND GOOD BOATING  
FOR 1993 TO ALL OUR  
READERS.**

# Waterways *Alive!*

In the 1940's, Britain's waterways were perceived as derelict, dirty ditches. An ever decreasing number of working boats struggled in dreadful conditions to maintain the carrying trade and anyone who navigated canals for pleasure was considered quite eccentric !



Grand Union Canal - by Alan Bamford

This changed with the formation of the Inland Waterways Association in 1946. Certainly not overnight - it took many, many years of campaigning to convince government, local authorities and the public that canals had any sort of future - 'fill 'em in' was the usual response.

Today, waterways are seen as a valuable part of Britain's landscape. They are appreciated

for their industrial heritage, for their contribution to urban landscapes and for their atmosphere of peace in a busy world. Their leisure value is accepted and there is increasing interest in the potential of some waterways for the development of waterborne freight carrying.

*The Inland Waterways Association has achieved all this - and more. Working with its associated Waterway Recovery Group, the IWA has enabled hundreds of miles of disused canals to be restored for use by boaters, walkers and anglers.*

*Restoration of many more derelict canals is underway, thanks to IWA members, canal societies and trusts, sympathetic local authorities and others who support the work of waterway campaigners throughout the country.*

Waterways are ALIVE today - but still remain an endangered species. The IWA's campaign will continue - to ensure that Britain's navigable rivers and canals stay alive for all to enjoy.

## **Living Waterways need BOATS....**

.... narrow boats, cruisers, canoes; boats to carry people and boats to carry freight. Britain's waterways are alive because they are navigable - and navigated. An unused canal soon becomes choked with weed, its water stagnant and unable to support fish and waterfowl. Waterways cannot live without boats (for which they were built) and it is boats which add colour and vitality to the scene.

- \* *THE INLAND WATERWAYS ASSOCIATION BELIEVES THAT THE PRIMARY USE FOR NAVIGABLE WATERWAYS IS TO TRAVEL BY BOAT.*
- \* *WE RESTORE WATERWAYS FOR NAVIGATION BY SUITABLE CRAFT.*
- \* *WE ARE THE ONLY NATIONAL BODY NEGOTIATING WITH NAVIGATION AUTHORITIES TO ENSURE PROPER MAINTENANCE OF WATERWAYS TO ADEQUATE STANDARDS FOR ALL SUITABLE CRAFT.*
- \* *WE ARE CONSULTED BY NAVIGATION AUTHORITIES AND OTHER WATER RELATED ORGANISATIONS ON MATTERS PERTAINING TO MOORINGS, LICENSE FEES, STOPPAGES AND OTHER CONCERNS AFFECTING BOTH THE NAVIGATION AND THE NAVIGATORS.*
- \* *THROUGH OUR INLAND SHIPPING GROUP, WE CAMPAIGN FOR TRANSPORT BY WATER, LOBBYING GOVERNMENT AND INDUSTRY TO PROMOTE THE CASE FOR THIS ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY AND ECONOMICAL FORM OF TRANSPORT.*

## **Living Waterways need PEOPLE....**

.... young and old, boaters, walkers and anglers, and all who have an interest in seeing Britain's waterway heritage cared for today.

- \* *THE INLAND WATERWAYS ASSOCIATION BELIEVES THAT WATERWAYS ARE FOR PEOPLE.*
- \* *WE BELIEVE THAT PROPER MAINTENANCE FOR NAVIGATION ALSO HELPS OTHER USERS. TOWPATHS WHICH ARE WELL KEPT FOR USE BY BOATERS WILL BENEFIT WALKERS AND ANGLERS. WE BELIEVE THAT THERE SHOULD BE PROPER ACCESS TO THESE TOWPATHS, INCLUDING PROVISION FOR WHEELCHAIR USERS.*
- \* *WE WORK WITH OTHER WATERWAY USERS TO PROMOTE HARMONY WHERE INTERESTS MAY APPEAR TO CONFLICT.*
- \* *WE ENCOURAGE LOCAL AUTHORITIES TO IMPROVE THE WATERWAYS WITHIN THEIR BOUNDARIES FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE LOCAL COMMUNITY.*
- \* *THROUGH THE IWA 'WATERWAYS FOR YOUTH' SCHEME WE ENCOURAGE YOUNG PEOPLE TO MAKE SAFE USE OF THE MANY LEISURE OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED BY BRITAIN'S RIVERS AND CANALS.*



## **Living waterways need BUILDINGS....**

.... and bridges, locks, tunnels and aqueducts. The architecture of canals is unique and often spectacular. Anderton Lift, Pontcysyllte Aqueduct, Dudley Tunnel and Bingley Five Rise Locks all qualify as 'wonders of the waterways' - but these well known examples of the canal builders art are echoed throughout the waterways in a thousand other ways.

- \* *THE INLAND WATERWAYS ASSOCIATION BELIEVES THAT THE UNIQUE ATMOSPHERE OF BRITAIN'S CANALS MUST NOT BE DESTROYED.*
- \* *WE RECOGNISE THAT NEW WATERSIDE DEVELOPMENTS ARE INEVITABLE AND NECESSARY, BUT NOT AT THE EXPENSE OF THE HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT*
- \* *WE MONITOR LOCAL PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND ATTEND PUBLIC INQUIRIES TO ENSURE THAT NEW PROPOSALS ARE IN KEEPING WITH THE WATERWAY CHARACTER OF THE AREA.*
- \* *WE WELCOME SYMPATHETIC CONVERSION OF HISTORIC BUILDINGS, ESPECIALLY THOSE SCHEMES WHICH ALLOW ACCESS BY THE PUBLIC OR ENABLE THE BUILDING TO BE USED FOR WATERWAY RELATED PURPOSES.*
- \* *WE ENCOURAGE RIPARIAN OWNERS TO MAKE THE BEST USE OF THEIR WATERFRONTS AND SUPPORT - BOTH FINANCIALLY AND WITH VOLUNTEER LABOUR - SCHEMES TO RESTORE STRUCTURES OF HISTORIC INTEREST.*

## **Living waterways need WILDLIFE....**

.... birds and plants, trees and animals all have their place in the canal environment - a fact which is appreciated by all who enjoy waterways.

- \* *THE INLAND WATERWAYS ASSOCIATION IS OPPOSED TO ANY UNNECESSARY DISTURBANCE OF THE WATERSIDE HABITAT WHICH SHELTERS THE WILD LIFE THAT IS SO MUCH A PART OF THE CANAL SCENE. WE RECOGNISE THAT ALTHOUGH NAVIGATION NEEDS TAKE PRECEDENCE, WE MUST ENDEAVOUR, BY NEGOTIATIONS WITH RELEVANT BODIES, TO REACH AGREEMENT AND ENSURE MINIMUM DISRUPTION TO WILD LIFE.*
- \* *LIVING CREATURES NEED LIVING WATERWAYS. DISUSED WATERWAYS SOON SILT UP AND STAGNANT WATER WILL NOT SUPPORT WILD LIFE*
- \* *WE BELIEVE THAT RESTORATION OF DERELICT WATERWAYS WILL INCREASE THE QUALITY AND QUANTITY OF HABITATS FOR WATER LOVING FLORA AND FAUNA.*
- \* *WHERE APPROPRIATE, OUR RESTORATION SCHEMES WILL INCLUDE THE PROVISION OF ALTERNATIVE HABITATS, TOGETHER WITH TREE PLANTING SCHEMES.*
- \* *WE MAKE AN ACTIVE CONTRIBUTION TO IMPROVING THE CANAL ENVIRONMENT BY ORGANISING 'CANAL CLEAN UPS' - BOTH LOCALLY AND NATIONALLY.*

Living waterways need YOU...

.... and so does the Inland Waterways Association (a registered charity). We care about canals and believe that Britain's waterways are a valuable national asset of benefit to the community. We seek your support in our campaign to ensure that these waterways stay alive for everyone to enjoy. Join the Association - support IWA events - send a donation to IWA funds, take part in restoration work; we appreciate your help in any way.

The IWA has 33 Branches throughout the country and you would be welcome to join in their activities, which include campaigning and social events, water festivals and fund-raising. Branches issue local newsletters (in addition to the IWA's national magazine, which is sent to all members) and organise working parties on canal restoration projects

To join the IWA please complete the form below:

Annual subscription: Single Adult £16

Family £20

Tick box for details of Corporate, senior/student rates/life membership.

☐

To: The Inland Waterways Association, 114 Regent's Park Road, London NW1 8UQ

I/We wish to join the IWA and have completed the Bankers Order below or enclose £ .....

Name .....

Address .....

.....

..... Postcode .....

Signed ..... Date .....

Bankers order (Do not detach)

To (name and address of your bank) .....

.....

Please pay to the account No. 09519408, sorting code No. 60-00-01T of the Inland Waterways Association at the National Westminster Bank plc; 21 Lombard Street, London EC3.

The sum of £.....on the first day of \*.....until further notice.

Signed ..... A/C No .....

Address .....

.....

..... Date .....

\*Insert the month following the current month.

To Bank: When making payments please quote IWA Ref. No. ....

The Inland Waterways Association  
114, Regent's Park Road, London NW1 8UQ.